Proposal to make power generation a Central subject

*260. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering proposals to make power generation in the country a Central subject;

(b) if so, whether the power shortage in the country has increased so much that the State Governments are compelled to set up super thermal and hydel power projects in the States; and

(c) if so, whether the Central Government are seriously considering this proposal, if so, by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) To meet the increasing demand of electricity, additional power generation capacity is inducted both in the State and the Central Sector. Even after the implementation of the Seventh Plan capacity addition programme of 22245 MW, the 13th Electric Power Survey of India has estimated an energy deficit of about 6% in the country, at the end of the Seventh Plan period. For meeting this shortage, new power projects have been identified for giving benefits in the Eighth Plan, including super thermal and hydel power projects.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Farming families benefited by the 'Jaldhara Scheme'

@1899. SHRI KAILASH PATI:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the statewise number of farming families benefited by the Scheme 'Jaldhara' during the year 1988-89, especially the marginal farmers in drought prone areas; and also the number of electric pump-sets used in the scheme in each State;

(b) whether there have been complaints in some states of inferior pumpsets or lack of power supply resulting in failure of the 'Jaldhara' scheme in certain areas; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the state-wise tentative figures of implementation of the scheme for the year 1989-90; and how many marginal and other farmers in various states have actually been benefited as yet by the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) to (c) With a view to assist the marginal farmers in the drought prone areas, the Government has launched a special programme called 'JALDHARA' during 1988-89 for providing electric pumpsets to such farmers for irrigation purposes. The scheme is expected to be completed by 1989-90. Statewise breakup of electric pumpsets, and the drought prone Districts proposed to be covered under this programme, is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below). According to the guidelines circulated by Rural

@Previously Unstared Question 937, transferred from the 2nd March, 1989.